



Pass It On

Mentor Michigan's 2008 Accomplishments

What is Mentor Michigan?

One hour a week can make a big difference in a young person's future. Mentor Michigan supports more than 200 organizations around the state that are changing lives by matching mentors with young people. Mentor Michigan provides those organizations with training and research. It fosters partnerships with businesses, faith-based and nonprofit organizations, schools, colleges and universities, and state and local government to support mentoring. Mentor Michigan also builds public awareness about the importance of and the need for mentors by urging caring adults to "pass it on," because sharing a little of yourself with a young person can reward both of you with lifelong benefits.

"All across the great state of Michigan there are youngsters waiting for someone to come into their lives and give them some time. We want you on our team — join us today."

Lloyd Carr
Former University of Michigan
head football coach and Mentor
Michigan recruitment spokesman

Mentor Michigan supports **227** mentoring organizations. A 2008 survey of **143** of those organizations in **47** Michigan counties concluded:

- **22,916** children were served by mentors in 2008. A number of these youth were disadvantaged, including **730** that lived in foster homes; **607** were diagnosed with a cognitive disability; **168** had a physical disability; and **1,245** had an incarcerated parent.
- **49 percent** of the youth being mentored were male, while **51 percent** were female.
- Michigan had **17,051** active mentors. Of those, **36 percent were male** while **64 percent were female**.

"Every day I keep thinking about how grateful I am to have Michele [my mentor] in my life. She is the only stable, adult role-model in my life and she gives me the strength to keep going forward."

Jamie Whipple
Ottawa County Journey Youth
Mentoring Program mentee

Mentoring works. Children with mentors are...

- **46 percent** less likely to begin using illegal drugs;
- **27 percent** less likely to be using alcohol;
- **52 percent** less likely to skip school;
- **more confident** in their schoolwork performance; and
- **better engaged** with their families.



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Mentor Michigan supports quality mentoring. It encourages organizations to utilize the *Mentor Michigan Program Quality Standards for Youth Mentoring* when screening, training, and matching mentors.

- Mentor Michigan provided training and technical assistance to **122** mentoring programs throughout the state.
- Mentor Michigan launched MentorPRO, an online case management system that allows programs to manage their matches more efficiently. **Eighteen** mentoring programs are now using this system to track **719** matches.

Mentor Michigan aims to recruit 10,000 new mentors by 2010. Mentor Michigan utilizes several campaigns to achieve this goal.

- The **Men in Mentoring** campaign provides grants to six pilot sites to implement male mentor recruitment – their goal is to recruit 500 mentors.
- The **Mobilizing Mentors: Hometown Heroes Mentoring Hometown Kids** campaign engages Michigan Army and Air National Guard members as mentors – their goal is to recruit 500 mentors.
- The **State Employee Recruitment** campaign promotes mentoring within state departments to recruit employees to become mentors.
- The **Michigan Municipal League** campaign encourages local elected officials to become mentors and promote mentoring within their communities.

"We utilize the Mentor Michigan Program Quality Standards to continually assess and improve our efforts as a program. The Standards also offer our mentoring collaborative the perfect starting point for sharing ideas, strategies, and suggestions among programs."

Laura Schleede
4-H Youth Mentoring
Program Coordinator,
Ottawa County

Mentor Michigan helps provide financial support to mentoring organizations throughout the state.

- 28 Michigan Mentoring Month mini grants valued at **\$19,000** were awarded to recruit and recognize mentors.
- Over **\$90,000** was awarded in Volunteer Investment Grants to six mentoring organizations in the state.
- **\$6,692** in Meijer mini grants were awarded to 15 mentoring organizations in the state.
- The six Men in Mentoring pilot sites received **\$60,000** in funding to support their male mentor recruitment efforts.
- The Michigan State University Extension: 4-H Mentor Michigan Initiative utilized **\$700,638** in federal funds and 55 Michigan's AmeriCorps members to expand and strengthen mentoring programs in the state.

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